

ARTISAN POLITICS

Local deli re-brands as yuppie emporium to protest rent hike

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

The owners of an imperiled Boerum Hill deli have staged an “artisanal takeover” of their 25-year-old corner store, re-branding products with yuppified names and jacking up prices to illustrate the kind of shop that could afford the 250-percent rent hike they say the store’s landlord is demanding.

Tongue-in-cheek posters advertising a “landlord price hike sale” at Jesse’s Deli, on the corner of Atlantic Avenue and Bond Street, show what neighbors can expect to pay if a new store hopes to cover the inflated rent, said one worker.

“That’s how much stuff is going to have to cost,” said Abed Hussein, who has worked at the shop for eight years. “It’s easy to get a lease, but not so easy to get people to buy stuff that expensive.”

The store re-branded packets of Goya Sazon sauce as “Oaxacan Sea Salt Taco Rub”—yours for just \$18!—Slim Jims as “Hand-Cured Salami Tubes”—a steal at \$5.99 a pop—and Raid as \$15.99 “Artisanal Roach Bombs.”

The stunt—inside the products and prices have not actually changed—is a protest against landlord Karina Bilger’s plan to jack up the rent by two-and-a-half times the current rate, said Mohamad Itayim, son of founder Jesse Itayim. The store is currently paying \$4,000 a month, and Bilger plans to raise that to \$10,000 when the store’s lease expires at the end of July, he said.

A pair of advertising pros and Jesse’s regulars said they came up with the concept and constructed the posters after they learned of the deli’s plight and wanted to use their public relations know-how to help out.



Abed Hussein, who has worked at Jesse’s Deli for eight years, said the shop would have to charge ludicrous prices to afford a threatened 250-percent rent hike.

“We kinda put our heads together and decided it would get more attention if we could show how ridiculous the neighborhood is getting,” said Tommy Noonan, who made the signs with buddy and Douglas Cameron.

The community has rallied around the shop, gathering signatures and holding a meeting last month to brainstorm ways to save their beloved bodega. The owners

say they are looking for a new location, and now that they have seen how much their little store means to neighbors, it will have to be somewhere nearby.

“We didn’t know how appreciated we were until now,” said Itayim. “After all the support we got, we’re only looking in this neighborhood.”

Rents have risen all along Atlantic Avenue, once a bastion of antique stores

and inexpensive Middle Eastern food, during the past decade, as the neighborhood has changed. Itayim said he appreciates some of the transformations, but they have come at the literal expense of humble stores like Jesse’s.

“What mom and pop can afford that kind of rent?” he said.

Bilger could not be reached for comment.

BLOCKED SHOT

Judge says Bridge Park condos can rise

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

It may be an eyesore, but it isn’t illegal.

Developers can now finish building a luxury hotel and condominium project in Brooklyn Bridge Park after a judge last Friday threw out a lawsuit filed by local activists hoping to preserve an iconic view of the titular bridge.

The judge found that the so-called Pierhouse development at Pier 1 does not exceed established height restrictions, as activists had argued, and, regardless, it is now too late for them to challenge a plan that had been hashed out over years of compromise between government agencies, community groups, and developers. Still, he agreed, it does ruin the view.

“The casual passerby walking along Brooklyn’s majestic Promenade is struck with the indelible

impression that these buildings, now nearing completion, are simply too large,” said Brooklyn Supreme Court judge Lawrence Knipel in his decision.

Activist group Save the View Now filed the suit on April 21, claiming that Pierhouse developer Toll Brothers had blown the park’s 100-foot height restriction with rooftop bulkheads and a bar that added an extra 30 feet to one of its buildings, blocking views of the Brooklyn Bridge from the Brooklyn Heights Promenade.

The judge had issued a temporary restraining order on the project until the case was heard, and Friday’s ruling means the developer can now resume work on the Pierhouse complex, which comprises three of the seven towers that are being constructed as cash cows for the ongoing maintenance of the waterfront green space.

Knipel said that the parties that negotiated the plans had known about the extra rooftop accouterments for years and everyone appeared to be a-okay with the situation. The activists should have brought this lawsuit back in 2006, when the park’s general project plan was settled on, or in 2013, when the final plan was filed with the city and construction began, he wrote in his ruling. The statute of limitations has well and truly passed, he said.

The Brooklyn Bridge Park Corporation, the semi-private body that operates the park, has long argued that the open-air watering hole and equipment were always part of the plan, and that activists were aware of it. But the influential Brooklyn Heights Association, which helped broker the deal in 2006, remembers the negotiations differently, claiming that



The still-rising Pierhouse development, as viewed from the Brooklyn Heights Promenade.

park honchos pledged to keep the rooftop utilities out of sight and that neighbors only realized the building was going to have some extra baggage once the towers had already gone up. Knipel said the court could find no evidence of

such an agreement.

Save the View Now’s chief says the group still believes the development violates the height restriction, but hasn’t decided if it will keep fighting the almost-completed condo and hotel complex in court.

“We’re obviously very disappointed with the decision,” said Steven Guterman, who lives near the park. “We think the judge may have gotten facts and issues incorrect, but we haven’t really huddled with lawyers yet to fig-

ure out what’s next.”

Save the View Now and other preservation groups have previously argued that the development infringes on legally protected views of the bridge from the promenade, but the judge said that the activist group has now given up on that claim.

A representative from Toll Brothers and the company’s partner Starwood Capital Group said the developers felt vindicated by the judge’s decision.

“We are very pleased with the court’s decision and findings of fact that confirm the Pierhouse development complies with the height restrictions imposed on the project which were adopted after years of extensive community review and input,” said spokesman Bud Perrone.

If nothing else, Save the View Now’s campaign may have saved the views in a different part of the park. Park administrators agreed last month to specifically include rooftop equipment as part of the height restrictions on two apartment towers slated for construction near Pier 6, as part of a court settlement with a different group of activists.



Lift Next Level Floats co-owners Gina Antioco and David Leventhal outside the entrance to one of the facility’s 7-foot tall flotation rooms.

The pod people

Sensory deprivation center opens in Carroll Gardens

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

They’re floating a new therapy, and that therapy is floating.

A pair of Carroll Gardeners have opened what they say is Brooklyn’s only sensory deprivation center, and one of the owners swears that lying in a pitch-black tank of salty water saved her from a lifetime of anxiety and insomnia.

“The first time I floated I remember walking out onto busy city streets and just feeling an overwhelming feeling of calmness,” said Gina Antioco, who launched Lift Next Level Floats on Court Street at Sackett Street with business partner David Leventhal earlier this month. “I remember sleeping well.”

Visitors to the one-stop float shop spend their hour-long ther-

apy session ensconced inside a space-age pod, which immerses the floater in total darkness and silence. Antioco and Leventhal add 1,000 pounds of Epsom salt to the water in each cocoon—that’s the equivalent of 333 boxes of Diamond Crystal Kosher Salt—to keep occupants totally buoyant, and customize the water to the inhabitant’s skin temperature, which they say gives the floater an out-of-body experience. Cut off from all of their senses, patients then lie back and dive into their own psyche.

For those who are squeamish about small spaces—or delving too deeply inside their own mind—the outfit also has two 7-foot tall flotation rooms, which have star-like ceiling lights and play literal chamber music.

Leventhal first tried floating when he was in college in the 1980s,



A dazed Noah Hurowitz emerges from a new naut after an hour-long float in the sensory deprivation pod.

I floated all my troubles away!

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

I’ve done deep-dive reporting before, but this was ridiculous!

Last Friday, I went out on a straightforward assignment to write about a new local business, and half an hour later, I was stuck wet and naked inside a pitch-black, sound-proof box, contemplating my own mortality.

No, Mayor DeBlasio’s security team hadn’t caught me trailing him outside the Park Slope YMCA again and stuffed me inside the trunk of an idling sport utility vehicle—not yet, any-

See FLOAT on page 6

which he said was the golden age of sensory deprivation. The practice is now in the midst of a renaissance, he said, thanks largely to comedian and mixed martial arts announcer Joe Rogan, who has been singing the praises of isolation tanks’ hallucinatory effects for years. Leven-

thal said 40 people came to the first floatation therapy conference he attended—last time he went, more than 500 people showed up.

Leventhal—a former attorney who traded practicing law for defying the laws of gravity—and Antioco met through mutual floating

friends, and both said their partnership seemed like a natural fit. In addition to their shared love of lying motionless in salt water, both are “burners,” or devotees of the annual Burning Man art festival in the Nevada desert. The psycho-

See POD on page 6

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LUMBER SUPPORT

Five ways to repurpose Coney Boardwalk timber

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

Wood reclaimed from the Coney Island Boardwalk after Hurricane Sandy was repurposed for a boardwalk at an Italian world’s fair. But what’s to come of it after the fete is over? Turns out it’s going to be re-recycled!

Boardwalk boosters were shocked last week to learn that the architects who designed the U.S.A. Pavilion at Milan’s sustainable-food-themed Expo 2015 used floors made of genuine Riegelmann Boardwalk planks that a lumber-salvaging company rescued after Hurricane Sandy ripped them from the esplanade in 2012. But back at the People’s Playground, the city wants to replace the storied planks with concrete and synthetic boards.

Once the expo wraps up in October, the pavilion’s builder says the well-traveled timber will go on to greater things. “We will work with [lumber salvager] Sawkill to reuse, resell or return the planks to give the material yet another life,” said architect James Biber.

But as what? We say ship that wood back to Brooklyn! Here are out top-five suggestions for re-re-purposing boards from the Boardwalk:

5. Pulp non-fiction
Talk about getting the front-page wood! Send some of that Boardwalk our way, and we’ll pulverize it and print The Brooklyn Paper on it. Imagine — the first draft of history on truly historic paper.

4. Batter up
Sooner or lathe-r someone ought to turn some of that pristine teak into Riegelmann Sluggers for our beloved Boys of Summer, the Brooklyn Cyclones.

We can only assume that, like Wonder Boy from 1984’s “The Natural,” Boardwalk war clubs would be imbued with mystical powers.

3. Bolster the borough
Boardwalk wood survived the worst storm to hit Brooklyn in recent memory — why not use it to shore up some of the borough’s beyond-aged infrastructure? Windows are collapsing in public schools, the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway is crumbling, and the Brooklyn Bridge is falling down. Think!

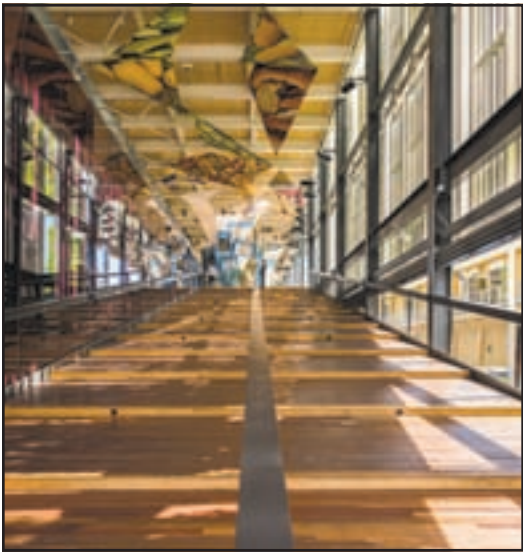
2. Fire it up
Locavores eat your hearts out. Lug that lumber over to Totonno’s and fire up the ovens! Foodies would come from near and far to taste a pie cooked with Boardwalk timber at the 90-year-old Neptune Avenue mainstay.

1. Rebuild the Boardwalk
This one’s a little outside of the box. The city could use the wood to — and bear with us here — to build a Boardwalk. No one likes the city’s plan to put in a seaside sidewalk — they should axe the concrete scheme and fashion an esplanade from wood. We could name it after a famous turn-of-the-century politician, or just call it the “Coney Island Boardwalk” — yeah, that’s got a nice ring to it.



Illustration by Sylvan Migdal

Brooklynites were surprised to learn that wood from the erstwhile Coney Island boardwalk had ended up at a world’s fair in Italy (below). The Brooklyn Paper has a few ideas for bringing the planks back to the borough — like giving them to the Cyclones!



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Cops: Man drives off in stolen Lexus

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope
Cops arrested a man who they say swiped a Lexus from Fifth Avenue after the owner left his ride idling and unlocked on June 1, according to a report.

The owner of the car left his wheels, a 2008 Lexus GS, unlocked and idling as he ran into a store between Second and Third streets shortly before 2 pm, and while the car was unattended the alleged brigand hopped in and took off, cops said.

The victim notified police of the theft, and cops caught up with the suspect at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Degraw Street, according to a report.

The alleged highway robber attempted to flee but cops managed to nab him, a report said.

Upon his capture, the alleged thief told cops “I had an emergency, so I took the car,” police said.

In and out

A burglar broke into a Third Avenue apartment and made off with with

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook
Shots fired

A gun-wielding maniac shot three men in a brazen daylight attack on Wyckoff Street on June 10, according to cops.

The unknown shooter opened fire near Bond Street shortly before 6 pm, and managed to wing one 28-year-old man in the ankle, caught a 25-year-old man in the leg, and plugged a 29-year-old man in the back before running off, a report said.

None of the victims sustained life-threatening injuries, cops said. Paramedics took one man to Lutheran Hospital and another to New York Methodist Hospital Center, according to a report.

There was no available description of the suspect other than that he was male, a police spokesman said.

Stay in your car

Cops arrested a driver after he allegedly attacked another motorist following a crash on

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Stay in your car

Cops arrested a driver after he allegedly attacked another motorist following a crash on

Congress Street on June 7, according to a report.

The two drivers collided near Columbia Street in the Columbia Waterfront District shortly after 4 pm, cops said. Police said the alleged aggressor, in town from upstate, hopped out of his vehicle and confronted the other driver, asked him to step out of his car, and punched him in the face.

Police arrested the wannabe traffic cop and paramedics transported the other driver to New York Methodist Hospital, said police.

Two-in-one

Burglars looted multiple apartments in the same President Street building during work hours on June 12, according to a report.

The thieves broke into both apartments in the building between Columbia and Hicks streets by forcing open bedroom doors that opened onto a communal hallway, cops said.

One victim, who said he had never used that door, returned home at 5:30 pm to find the door ajar, his bedroom ransacked, and a laptop and an iPod missing, according to a report.

The other victim, who returned home from work at 6 pm, found her apartment rummaged through and a

Man in critical condition after W’burg bar brawl

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

A man is clinging to life after he was injured in an early-morning fight at a popular Williamsburg bar on Sunday, police said.

Staffers or patrons at the Charleston, which is on Bedford Avenue between N. Seventh and N. Eighth streets, called police twice in two hours to deal with scuffles involving the man,

according to police.

Police said they first responded to a call at the bar at 12:45 am on Sunday morning. They arrived to find the man with a bloody nose. He refused treatment and walked away from the bar, said Sgt. Lee Jones.

Cops were summoned again less than an hour later, and when they showed up this time, they said they found the man uncon-

scious and unresponsive at the curb, police said.

The man was sent to hospital, where he remains in critical condition with severe head and brain injuries, Jones said.

Police said they are still trying to figure out what happened at the bar that night and have made no arrests.

Staff at the Charleston refused to comment.

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Macbook Pro and an estimated \$200 worth of women’s jewelry missing, according to a report.

— Noah Hurowitz

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights
Hot purse-uit

A rogue snatched a woman’s purse on Eighth Avenue on June 12.

The victim was near 62nd Street in Sunset Park at 10:45 am when the lout grabbed her bag, police said. The woman tried to chase him down, but lost him after a block, a police report states.

Easy entry

A thief walked right in the

front door of a Fourth Avenue home and walked out with \$280 and some jewelry sometime between June 1 and June 10.

The house is located between 79th and 80th streets in Bay Ridge, police said.

Bag pinched

A cretin copped a clutch from an elderly woman on 84th Street on June 12.

The victim was between Fourth and Fifth Avenues in Bay Ridge at 7:15 pm when the rapscallion struck, snatching the purse from his 70-year-old victim and fleeing, police said.

— Max Jaeger

90TH PRECINCT

Southside–Bushwick
It’s a snap

Police arrested a man who they said stole a woman’s smartphone and broke her purse strap on Graham Avenue on June 14.

The victim told police that she was near Metropolitan Avenue at 4:05 am when a guy grabbed the strap of her pocketbook, breaking it.

He then grabbed the woman’s smartphone out of her hand and ran into the Graham station of the L train, where cops nabbed him, officials reported. They charged him with robbery.

Bus stop

A yahoo robbed a woman who was waiting for the bus on Flushing Avenue in broad daylight on June 8.

The woman told police she was waiting for the bus between Broadway and Humboldt Street at 3 pm when the scoundrel came up behind her and threatened her.

“This is a hold up,” he reportedly said. “Do not make a scene or do anything or I will hurt you.”

The victim handed over \$40 in cash and the robber went away, cops reported.

Raise a glass

A bully threw a glass bottle at a guy on S. Fourth Street in the early morning of June 12, cutting him.

The victim told police that he was between Keap and Hooper streets at 5 am when someone suddenly threw a glass bottle at his neck, cutting to his neck and arm.

The victim said he could not give a description of his attacker.

Emergency personnel took the him to Bellevue Hospital for treatment.

Very persuasive

A schemer swindled an elderly Boerum Street woman out of \$19,000 by calling her twice and asking her to send money to his bank account in Poland.

The 81-year-old victim told us that she first got a call from the man while inside her apartment between Lorimer and Leonard streets at 1:17 pm on April 30. He asked her to

send him \$15,000 in cash to his bank account in Poland. She did as he asked.

She said he called her again at 1:09 pm on May 6 and asked her to send another \$4,000. She again sent him the money.

She reported the calls to police on June 10, and told officials she sent the money because she was afraid of what would happen if she did not.

At gunpoint

A trio of bullies held up a man at gunpoint on McKibbin Street on June 8 — and got away with his smartphone, wallet, and hat.

The victim told police that he was near Bogart Street at 11 pm when a guy walking with two other punks put a gun in his face.

“Make it easy give me your stuff,” the robber said, according to the police report.

The victim told cops he handed over his phone, wallet, and hat.

Grab and run

Cops cuffed a man who they said grabbed cash out of an elderly man’s hands on Debevoise Street on June 9.

The victim told police he was standing between Graham Avenue and Humboldt Street at 7 pm and counting cash when a guy came up from behind and grabbed \$15 out of his hand.

The alleged robber walked away and the victim followed him for several blocks, demanding his money back, according to the police report.

The victim saw an officer and flagged him down, telling him that the man took his money, officials said. Cops charged the suspect with robbery.

Small talk

A gun-crazed robber held up a man in the Hewes Street subway station on June 7 and stole his phone and wallet — and forced him to take money out of his debit account.

The victim told police that he walked into the station at the corner of Broadway and Hugh Street at 2 am. A man asked him to swipe him into the station, so the victim did.

The deadbeat then chatted with the man before pulling out a gun and ordering the victim to empty his pockets, police reported.

The victim took \$10 in cash, his wallet, and a smartphone out of his pocket, he told cops.

Police say the lout then made the victim go with him to a cash machine and withdraw \$540.

The robber then took the victim back to same station and waited for him to board the next J train, the report states.

— Danielle Furfaro

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Pier pressure

Report: Bad welding caused Greenpoint pier collapse

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

It blew its fuse.

The ramp of a Greenpoint pier collapsed into the East River last year because it was poorly welded together, a long-awaited report reveals.

The study, which was commissioned by India Street Pier-owner Red Sky Capital, found that the piles that held up the structure were spliced together from shorter sections, but the contractor that welded the joins did a shoddy job, ultimately causing several piles to fail underground.

Three of the four piles collapsed during a snowstorm in February last year, sending the gangway between the pier and the ferry collapsing into the icy water below just moments after a gaggle of passengers had walked over it. The pier was then out of commission until July.

The city, which oversees the publicly-subsidized ferry service, says boat operator Billybey performs weekly inspections of the pier, but an official from the company told The Brooklyn Paper after the collapse that it had only ever inspected the dock above the water line, which gave no indication of the disaster looming below the surface.

The city does not perform any inspections of the pier, and could not provide the paper with copies of Billybey’s inspection records, said Ian Fried, a spokesman for the city’s economic development corporation. Fried claimed that inspecting under the water would not have made a difference, since the pile break happened underground.

East River Ferry riders say they feel uneasy after learning that the pier was both poorly constructed and never in-



Photo by Jason Speakman

The gangplank that attaches the India Street Pier to the barge at which boats collect passengers collapsed into the water in February 2014.

spected underwater.

“That does not make me feel very safe,” said Hannah Ballard of Williamsburg. “The government is supposed to look after its people and it looks like they did not in this case.”

The city needs to take more responsibility for maintaining and inspecting the pier to ensure ferry riders’ safety in the future, said one local.

“It is a comedy of errors that is not so funny,” said Greenpoint resident and transit activist Teresa Toro. “It re-

ally is a miracle that no one was hurt this time. I understand that there might be extra expense involved with doing underwater inspections, but this is public safety.”

Pols and residents grew increasingly frustrated with Red Sky Capital’s failure to produce an explanation for the debacle in the months after it happened. The report is dated Oct. 28, 2014, but was only released to the city in recent days—more than a year after the collapse and almost a year after ferry service resumed.

The gig is up!

W’burg’s Trash Bar to close at the end of the month

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

They’re finally taking out the Trash.

Beloved Williamsburg music venue Trash Bar will close its Grand Street doors for good on June 27, leaving local rockers looking for a new place to score freetater tots and perform drunken punk-rock karaoke.

“It is the best place to hang out in Williamsburg,” said punk fan Jan Levy. “I do not know where I will hang out now. Nowhere else is nearly as good.”

The music joint announced its imminent closure at the end of last year, citing the landlord’s reluctance to renew its lease and plans to jack up the rent by as much as four times. Owner

Aaron Pierce managed to keep the venue running for another six months, lining up bands to play seven nights a week but letting them know that the shows may never happen.

The bar opened on Grand Street, between Driggs Avenue and Roebling Street, in 2004 and quickly became a mecca for punk rock and metal bands and the people who love them. The bar famously hosted a Sunday church service for many years, and also bills itself as “the cheapest place to drink in Williamsburg,” offering a Pabst Blue Ribbon and shot of whiskey for \$5 and a one-hour open bar during week-end shows.

Pierce said he hopes to re-open in a new location and is



Photo by Sara Hjilton

Bianca Doyle and Daniel Doyle enjoy cheap beers at Trash Bar on one of the tavern’s final days. The music venue will close at the end of the month.

currently in talks with a handful of building owners in Williamsburg and Bushwick, but does not yet know for sure where, when, or if Trash Bar will re-materialize.

Trash Bar joins a grim procession of music venues that have closed down over the past year and a half in Williamsburg, Greenpoint, and

Bushwick, including Death by Audio, Glasslands, Public Assembly, and Goodbye Blue Monday.

The final show at Trash Bar [256 Grand St. between Roebling Street and Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000, www.thetrashbar.com]. June 27 at 8 pm. \$10.

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Judge: Lopez must pay \$300K fine

By **Danielle Furfaro**
The Brooklyn Paper

Now someone’s seizing *his* assets.

Disgraced former Wil- liamburg assemblyman and Brooklyn Democratic party boss Vito Lopez must cough up the \$330,000 in fines he owes for sexually harass- ing his female staffers, or the state will seize his real estate and cars, says New York’s top lawyer.

“A legislator guilty of wrongdoing should be held to the same standard as any other individual, and we will

take all appropriate action to recover this money on be- half of the people of New York,” said Matt Mitten- thal, a spokesman for At- torney General Eric Sch- neiderman.

A state judge last Tuesday gave Schneiderman a green light to pursue Lopez for the fine, which the legislative eth- ics commission slapped him with two years ago. Lopez claimed that he shouldn’t have to pay the penalty be- cause he wasn’t given a fair chance to fight the accusa- tions — in part because he never received the paperwork

notifying him of the charges. But the judge found that Lo- pez refused multiple oppor- tunities to plead his case, and that there was a reasonable chance he had just avoided collecting his mail.

Lopez’s attorney also said the fine was too damn high — claiming that it is 33 times the maximum penalty allowed for ethics violations. He said the judge didn’t un- derstand the law, and vowed to fight the decision through the court system until they find one who does.

“We intend to appeal the decision to the Appellate Di-

vision, and on up until we find a court prepared to allow Mr. Lopez the same rights as any citizen of the United States,” said Gerald B. Lefcourt.

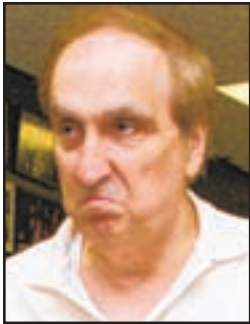
The assembly’s ethics commission in 2012 found Lopez guilty of breaking its harassment rules after two young, female staffers ac- cused him of a laundry list of creepy behavior, includ- ing groping and trying to kiss them, telling them to “dress sexy” in the office, and ask- ing one of the women give him a manicure.

After the ruling, the as- sembly stripped Lopez of his

powerful position as the chair of the Committee on Hous- ing, and all the perks of se- niority that he had racked up over 28 years in office. Lo- pez stepped down from his position as borough Demo- cratic party boss the follow- ing week, but didn’t resign from his assembly seat until 2013, when he made a failed bid for city council.

The state settled a law- suit earlier this year with the two women who made the accusations, costing tax- payers \$545,000, and Lopez an additional \$35,000.

Former Assembly speaker



Former assemblyman Vito Lopez was found guilty of sexually harassment.

Sheldon Silver also secretly paid off two other Lopez sex- ual harassment accusers with \$100,000 in taxpayer-funded hush money.

POD...

Continued from page 1

nautic pair decided to go into business just two days after meeting, they said.

The duo may spend a lot of their time adrift, but they say their business is firmly planted on terra firma. Lift Next Level Floats already has a small col- lection of members signed up for regular float sessions, and Antiocho said she thinks the ac- tivity will really make a splash in Brooklyn.

FLOAT

Continued from page 1

way. My editor had sent me out to interview the owners of Lift Next Level Floats, a re- cently-opened flotation ther- apy center in Carroll Gardens, where customers pay to en- snore themselves inside sen- sory deprivation tanks — a practice the proprietors told me heals physical ailments and helps the mind deal with anxiety, insomnia, and every- day stress.

More importantly, mixed martial arts commentator Joe Rogan says it is trippier than the Coney Island Pink Floyd Laser Show. So when the store’s owners asked if I wanted to have a soak in one of their space-age isolation pods (gratis, I should disclose for ethical reasons), I was out of my clothes faster than you can say, “Wait, remember what happened to William Hurt in that freaky Ken Rus- sell movie...”

That very thought finally occurred to me as I prepared for my cocooning, but once I had climbed inside the gap- ing maw of the Hungry, Hun- gry, Hippo-like contraption and pulled the lid closed, my fears floated away.

The water was saltier than a bag of potato chips, keep- ing me effortlessly buoyant, and the same temperature as my body, making it difficult to work out where my limbs ended and the water began. The only reminder that I was, in fact, confined inside a tepid bath above a German beer hall was when my ponderous bob- bing occasionally brought one of my toes into contact with

“Once you do it I think you’re kind of like, ‘How have I not done this my whole life?,’ ” she said.

This is not the first oppor- tunity Brooklynites have had to float inside sensory depri- vation tanks — a German art- ist installed a pod inside a Sun- set Park warehouse in 2010 — but it is the borough’s first dedicated floatation therapy center, the owners claim.

Lift Next Level Floats [320 Court St., second floor, at Sackett Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 701-0808, www.liftfloats.com].

The Tale of Two de Blasios

MAYOR de BLASIO	LANDLORD de BLASIO
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Rent is the number one expense for New Yorkers.”• Wants stricter Albany rent laws and a rent freeze that prevents landlords from paying the bills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• His tenants pay \$100,000 in rent.• He can cover his bills by raising his tenants’ rent.

A de Blasio rent freeze and his push for stricter Albany rent laws is not only one big contradiction, it will destroy affordable housing for the millions of New Yorkers who depend on it.



“I provide affordable housing for 5 families in Harlem.”

“I provide affordable housing for 6 families in Bay Ridge.”

“I provide affordable housing for 8 families in Park Slope.”

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EVERYTHING MATTERS



Goooooooooooooooooaaaaaallll!: The two teams of female dancers react with horror and jubilation to a game-changing event in the comedy dance performance “Invisiball.”

Sport of kings!

‘Invisiball’ show drags fans into a faux soccer match

by **Trupti Rami**
for The Brooklyn Paper

These performers have no balls. Ten female dancers will create an over-the-top, immersive soccer game on a Gowanus stage on June 24–26, but their blend of sports, comedy, and dance will be missing one thing—a soccer ball, says the show’s creator. “‘Invisiball’ is watching a soccer game without a ball. Literally,” said director and choreographer Nadine Bommer, who grew up in Israel. She says the whole experience of the performance will be like going to a match—but she does not actually know what that is like. “The funny thing is I have never seen

a game in my life. Not on television or in real life,” said Bommer. The choreographer got all of her knowledge of soccer second-hand, from enthusiastic Israeli men for whom soccer is almost a religion, she said. “It’s only through the enthusiasm of Israeli men in my life and all around me that I have any connection to this game,” said Bommer. She remembers walking her dog on game nights and hearing the excitement from the streets. “I could almost understand the game just from the shouts and cheering,” said Bommer. That almost-understanding led her to

create a show with a stage that mimics a soccer field, dancers in teams with yellow or red uniforms, and an audience that transforms into soccer fans. Her theatrical style, called Animato, is all about getting into character, she said. Every story or situation she chooses comes from a humorous place and is expressed in a physically exaggerated way. In “Invisiball,” the show’s ten dancers turn themselves into buff jocks. “The fact that delicate female dancers are portraying hard-soccer playing guys brings out the humor for me and for them,” said Bommer. “Having the freedom portray ‘guys’ with all their extreme and private behavior without a filter, it ends up being very funny.”

Fans can even nosh on hot dogs (\$3) and slurp down beer and wine (\$5) to help get into the stadium mind set. The show, which has traveled to Berlin, Prague, Copenhagen, Bologna and Macau, has had enthusiastic receptions since it began touring three years ago. Bommer said the audience does as good a job as the performers. “They really got attached to their teams like it was a real soccer game and also came away with a great appreciation for the art,” Bommer said. “Invisiball” at 501 Union [501 Union St. between Nevins and Bond streets in Gowanus, (347) 529-6486, www.gowanusartandproduction.com]. June 24–26 at 8 pm. \$40 (\$35 in advance).

Tell the Hole story

Photo exhibit focuses on life in a derelict section of Brooklyn

By **Max Jaeger**
The Brooklyn Paper

It’s a hole ‘nother world. A photographer who embedded himself in a derelict Brooklyn sub-district offers a glimpse of life in “the Hole” with an exhibit at Boerum Hill’s Invisible Dog art center, opening on June 25. Initially the picture-maker went to the Hole—a small section of East New York bordering Queens with dirt roads, no sewers, and more than a few dicey denizens—for a one-day project, but his interest was piqued after a local family invited him to follow them for an evening. “That night, the husband

and nephew broke into neighbor’s basement to steal power for their RV,” said Allen Agostino. “I said ‘holy s---, this is something I’m going to work on for a while.’” The Hole sits 30 feet below sea level and is best known as a body dumping ground for the Mafia, he said. Agostino’s art captures life on the margins of society, but it also captures the circumstances that can drive people to those margins. “A lot of the people have a sordid history,” he said. But the Hole is also a place for rebirth—many folks living there came to escape their past and reinvent themselves, and the attempts are sincere, Agostino said.

“I always felt like I could trust them—right from the beginning,” he said of his host “Bam”—a former heroin dealer and avowed murderer—and his family. And finding humanity in the city’s seedier spots is the goal of the “Rear Windows” exhibition goal, an organizer said. “It’s not even the photographer that matters, it’s the people that are being photographed,” said curator Pauline Vermare. Other Rear Windows exhibitors followed members of the Latin Kings, drug addicts in a tent city, and compulsive gamblers at the Aqueduct Race Track. And Brooklyn Paper contributor Cate Dingley



Down in the Hole: Allen Agostino’s subjects live in a trailer in an undeveloped section of East New York called “the Hole” that has no sewers and few paved streets. The Linden Plaza Apartments loom in the distance.

documented Times Square’s last surviving peep show. In each instance, the photographers had to gain their subjects’ trust. Agostino found a fixer in the first person he met in the Hole, because—despite their disparate back-

grounds—they shared similar dispositions. “I’m sort of fat and Canadian and funny, and she’s fat and Puerto Rican and funny,” Agostino said. “At first, she called me an idiot and said I was gonna get robbed. We ended insulting each

other and then getting along.” “Rear Windows” at the Invisible Dog (51 Bergen St. between Smith Street and Boerum Place in Boerum Hill, www.theinvisibledog.org). June 25–27, 1 pm–7 pm; June 28, 1 pm–5 pm. Free.

BOOK

Get the scoop



The secret is simple. In a new book, the owners of Greenpoint-based Van Leeuwen Ice Cream Company dish up the sweet secrets of the company’s beloved ice cream. The book, which readers can sample at PowerHouse Arena in Dumbo on June 24, spills over with more than 100 recipes. And they can all be made with the simplest ingredients, said company co-founder Laura O’Neill (pictured, front). “We use eggs in all of our classic ice creams, so it’s egg, cream, milk and cane sugar,” said O’Neill. After that, the dairy doyen said that aspiring artisans just need to concentrate on finding the best ingredients they can get. “In some cases, what people find will be even better than what we have in New York,” she said. “For instance something like passion fruit you can get really easily in California or Australia, but it would be like five dollars apiece in New York City. People should strive to get the best ingredients they can get and the recipes will come out great.” The book includes a history of the company’s rise from a single ice cream truck to a multi-store enterprise. O’Neill founded the company with two brothers—Benjamin and Peter Van Leeuwen—none of whom had any prior culinary experience. The ice cream makers soon became known for the quality of their ingredients and for creating short runs of unusual flavors. So the book scoops in recipes for cherry ice cream with Sichuan peppercorns and a vegan ice cream cold-brewed Earl Grey tea flavor, along with classics like chocolate and strawberry. O’Neill said that there is no system to creating special flavors, aside from trying to make something delicious. “We don’t ever want to do something that’s just for shock value,” she said. “We only want to make ice cream flavors that make sense, and to make sure that whatever we’re putting into the flavor is as pure as the base.” The book will empower home cooks to experiment at home, said O’Neill. “This is a very comprehensive guide to making ice cream,” she said. “Even if there are flavors that are not in the book that people want to experiment with, I think we’ve equipped them with the skills that they need to be able to do that.” “Van Leeuwen Artisan Ice Cream” at PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. between Water and Front streets in Dumbo, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhousearena.com]. June 24 at 7 pm. Free.

MUSIC

Sight of music



Call her the artist from Down Under—the Manhattan Bridge. An Australian-born singer and songwriter has opened a Dumbo shop where she sells artwork based on her songs. Natalie Ackerman, who has recorded five pop albums and performed with Sting and Billy Joel, said that the impulse to draw is the same one that fuels her music. “It’s just pouring out of me,” said Ackerman. “I’m not the type to put a lid on anything creatively. If the muse says, ‘Okay, now we’re going to write an album.’ Okay, that’s what I’m doing. If the muse says to draw, that’s what I do.” Some of her colored-pencil drawings are literal depictions of the song lyrics, which are printed on the back of each piece, while others are more abstract renderings. Each also comes with a download code for the depicted song. Ackerman sees her melodic pop music as a way to tell personal stories of struggle and triumph. And creating the art by hand and selling it at Natchie Art is another way to reach out to people, she said. “The stories are always emotional and vulnerable, very human, I guess. And I think that’s why this all works. Because I feel like today, especially with digital art, we’ve lost that human connection,” she said. “And I feel like between my drawings and music I’m trying to make those connections.” Ackerman will reach out to audiences on June 25 with a concert in the Archway under the Manhattan Bridge, just a few steps from her storefront. The event is part of the Live at the Archway series, which hosts free summer concerts on Thursday evenings. Ackerman will perform with her full eight-piece band, the Harold Pinter Orchestra. “At first I was just going to do a little band, a little set-up, and then I thought—‘No, I’m going to go for it!’” she said. “I’m bringing everyone. It is a huge event!” Nadia Ackerman and the Harold Pinter Orchestra at the Archway (Pearl Street at Anchorage Place in Dumbo). June 25 at 6 pm. Free. Natchie Art (145 Front St. between Jay and Pearl streets in Dumbo, www.natchieart.com). Open Tue–Sun, noon–7 pm. —Bill Roundy

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY

June 20



Mer-made in Brooklyn

The fishy femmes become part of our world at the annual Coney Island Mermaid Parade! Briny beauties will walk on those — whaddaya call 'em? Oh, yeah — feet! along Surf Avenue, displaying elaborate costumes for a crowd packed like sardines to see the city's biggest art parade.

1 pm (W. 21st St. and Surf Avenue in Coney Island). www.coneyisland.com. Free.

SUNDAY

June 21

Circle of life

You can easily catch Coney Island during daylight today — it is the longest day of the year! And the Wonder Wheel has teamed up with The Longest Day Project, so each ticket you buy for the Wonder Wheel today nets the Alzheimer's Association one dollar.

Noon–closing at Deno's Wonder Wheel Amusement Park (3059 W. 12th St. at the Boardwalk in Coney Island, www.wonderwheel.com). \$7.



MONDAY

June 22



Crafty competition

Bored by basic beer? Tonight, five master mixologists concoct creative cocktails from Brooklyn Brewery beers in a bartender battle. Visitors can try each of them and vote for the best.

7:30 pm at the Brooklyn Brewery (79 N. 11th St. between Berry Street and Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg, www.brooklynbrewery.com/events). \$27.50.

TUESDAY

June 23

O captain, my captain!

Exploring new worlds, seeking out new life and new civilizations — that surely gives one cosmic insight on trivia competitions. Park Slope's own Star Trek captain Patrick Stewart will be on stage tonight, answering brain teasers on the NPR quiz show "Ask Me Another."

7:30 pm at the Bell House (149 Seventh St. between Second and Third streets in Gowanus, (718) 643–6510, www.thebellhouse-nyc.com). \$25 (\$20 in advance).



THURSDAY

June 25



Humans are delicious!

Years of watching Syfy movies has taught us that literally all animals are vicious killers with a taste for human blood. If Nitehawk recognizes this truth with an "animals attack" film series, starting tonight with a video clip show of killer beasts hosted by comedian Kevin Maher.

9:30 pm at Nitehawk Cinema (136 Metropolitan Ave. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384–3980, www.nitehawkcinema.com). \$15.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, JUNE 19

MUSIC, LAURIE M. TAYLOR, SOUL MOVEMENT, KARISMA JAY: A night of dance inspired by a range of sounds, including the music of Gregory Porter, Childish Gambino, and Robert Glasper. Part of SummerStage. Free. 7–9 pm. Herbert Von King Park (670 Lafayette Ave. between Tompkins and Marcy avenues in Fort Greene), www.cityparks-foundation.org.

THEATER, "THE CHERRY ORCHARD": Anton Chekov's "The Cherry Orchard" is adapted to resonate in today's times of social upheaval. \$35. 8 pm. Red Hook Lab (133 Imlay St. between Verona and Pioneer streets in Red Hook, (718) 395–3218), www.redhooklabs.com.

MUSIC, THE NEW JEWEL MOVEMENT, SOFT CACTUS, VITAL G, THE OX ON THE ROOF: \$8. 8 pm. Trash Bar (256 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599–1000), www.thetrashbar.com.

MUSIC, ANA MATRONIC: Free. 11 pm. C'mon Everybody (325 Franklin Ave. at Clifton Place in Fort Greene).

SAT, JUNE 20

MUSIC, DRUNK TED TALKS PRESENTS: Graduating From the Western Canon: Intelligent people talking about weird stuff while extremely drunk. Tonight's topic: Kanye West. \$5. 2 pm. Littlefield (622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855–3388), www.littlefieldnyc.com.

MUSIC, BROWNSVILLE HERITAGE HOUSE JAZZ 2015: The Wade Barnes Tribute Band presents the Word on the Street Ensemble. Free. 3–6 pm. Brownsville Heritage House (581 Mother Gaston Blvd. between Dumont and Livonia avenues in Brownsville, (718) 385–1111).

MUSIC, DEAD MOON, J MASCIS, BORBETOMAGUS, DAS AUDIT: \$25. 6 pm. Pioneer Works (159 Pioneer St. between Imlay and Conover streets in Red Hook, (718) 596–3001), pioneerworks.org.

THEATER, "ALICE ARE YOU": A new take on the classic tale "Alice in Wonderland." For children 5 and older. \$20–\$25. 7:30 pm. Mark Morris Dance Group (3 Lafayette Ave.



No one Bette-rl: Swoon to the divine Bette Midler's brassy pipes from a distance — or from up close, if you get tickets early — when she sails into Barclays Center on June 29.

COMING SOON TO BARCLAYS CENTER

SAT, JUNE 27

MUSIC, CONTEMPORARY COLOR: Featuring David Byrne, Nelly Furtado, How to Dress Well, Dev Hynes, Kelis, Nico Muhly and Ira Glass, St. Vincent, Tune-Yards, Lucius, and Money Mark and Ad-Rock. \$30–\$85. 7:30 pm.

SUN, JUNE 28

MUSIC, CONTEMPORARY COLOR: See Saturday, June 27. \$25–\$85. 7:30 pm.

MON, JUNE 29

MUSIC, BETTE MIDLER: \$47.50–\$312.50. 7:30 pm.

TUE, JUNE 30

MUSIC, IMAGINE DRAGONS, METRIC: \$29.50–\$69.50. 7:30 pm.

THURS, JULY 9

COMEDY, KEVIN HART: \$49.50–\$200. 7 pm.

620 Atlantic Ave. at Pacific Street in Prospect Heights (917) 618–6100, www.barclayscenter.com.

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Find lots more listings online at BrooklynPaper.com/Events

between Nostrand Avenue and Bedford Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 624–8400], www.markmorrissdance-group.org.

ART, "AFROS: A Celebration of Natural Hair": An exhibition of photographs by artist Michael July celebrating natural hair. Free. 2–7 pm. House of Art Gallery (408 Marcus Garvey Blvd. between Halsey and Macon streets in Bedford-Stuyvesant), www.hoa-gallery.com.

SPORTS, BROOKLYN CYCLONES OPENING DAY: The Brooklyn Cyclones open their 15th season at MCU Park, taking on the Staten Island Yankees. Followed by a post-game fireworks display. Admission is free, and the first 500 fans receive a free ticket to a 2015 Cyclones home game. \$10. 6:30 pm. MCU Park (1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449–8497], www.brooklyncyclones.com.

SUN, JUNE 21

TALK, "INTO THE WOODS": A reunion of the original cast of the musical, it will be part retrospective; part moderated panel with Sondheim, Lapine, and the cast; and part performance, with cast members performing songs from the show. \$35. 2 pm and 7 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene), www.bam.org.

MUSIC, LAURIE BERKNER: Free. 5:15 pm. Herbert Von King Park (Marcy and Lafayette avenues).

THEATER, FORCE MAJEURE: Monthly vaudeville show Force Majeure brings together an eclectic mix of performers, including circus musician Sxip Shirey, lead Cirque du Soleil clown Daniel Passer, magician David Kaye, and sideshow artist The Lady Aye. \$10. 8:30 pm. The Cobra

See **9 DAYS** on page 10



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June 19–25, 2015

Teen wasteland

Students plumb history for an exhibit uncovering Brooklyn’s sewer system

By Allegra Hobbs
The Brooklyn Paper

A group of teens have uncovered the secrets of the sewers.

A new exhibit at the Brooklyn Historical Society explores the history of the borough’s sewer system, researched and curated by a team of high school students through Ex Lab, the society’s after-school program.

The teenagers discovered no ninja turtles or alligators, but they unearthed a comprehensive timeline of both “above ground” and “below ground” stories told through historical photographs, maps, drawings, and various artifacts related to whisking away people’s waste — including an antique chamber pot.

Student curators were surprised to find that New York is among the few communities still using a combined sewer system, which can allow sewage to overflow into canals during heavy storms, and that Coney Island opts for septic tanks over a sewer system. And they learned to appreciate the modern pipes that separate drinking water from toilet water.

“For most of the history that we were learning about it was so dangerous to be drinking the water,” said Caroline Zuba, a rising senior at Brooklyn Technical High School. “You would be getting cholera and you wouldn’t even know what was going on, just because you wouldn’t think that your doo-doo was getting into the water.”

Their newfound knowledge opened their eyes to the unseen (but not, historically speaking, unsmelled) side of Brooklyn.

“I’ve learned more about the city in general,” said Zuba. “It’s seeing a differ-



Sewer sisters: Caroline Zuba and Ana Beirne-Meyer with the exhibit on the history of Brooklyn’s sewer system they researched and curated.

ent perspective on how the city operates, and it’s cool to know a little more about New York.”

And no mutagenic ooze was required to transform how the teenagers think about using water at home — just knowledge.

“You don’t really notice how much water you’re using and where it’s going,” said Ana Beirne-Meyer, a rising sophomore at Edward R. Murrow High School.

“I don’t take one-hour showers anymore,” agreed Zuba.

Zuba and Beirne-Meyer joined their teammates for two-hour, twice-a-week meetings from February through June while putting the exhibit together. All those hours created tight bonds — the girls in the group call themselves the “sewer sisters.”

The leaders at the society were impressed with the students’ boldness in expressing ideas and collaborating to create a museum-worthy work of art.

“We could actually see everyone’s growth as they did this,” said Shirley Brown-Al-

leyne, the Manager of Teaching and Learning at the society. “Doing Ex Labs is not just learning about the exhibit and learning about New York City. Each and every one of them had some type of personal growth that expanded them.”

“Brooklyn Sewers: What’s Up Down There?” at the Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. between Clinton Street and Monroe Place in Brooklyn Heights, www.brooklynhistory.org, (718) 222-4111]. Open Wed–Sun, noon–5 pm. \$10 (free for students).

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Color coordination

Rock stars and color guards team up

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

These artists are changing the color guard. A group of music stars organized by rock legend David Byrne will perform along with hundreds of flag-twirling color guard members in a pair of concerts on June 26 and 27 at Barclays Center. In addition to the former Talking Head, musicians in the project include Nelly Furtado, Money Mark and Ad Rock, How to Dress Well, and Tune-Yards, among others. The seeds of the performance, called “Contemporary Color,” started in 2008 when a high school color guard team asked Byrne to lend a com-



Catalina Kulczar-Marin

Byrne-ing down the house: Legendary rock star David Byrne lights up Barclays Center this month with “Contemporary Color.”

position for one of its competitions. Byrne knew little about color guards, but he started researching and was impressed at the routines he discovered. “I was stunned at what I was seeing,” he said. “And being a musician I naturally wondered to myself: what if these performances had really great live music? Wouldn’t that lift it to another level?” Color guards, which evolved out of military maneuvers, incorporate dance and music with military props like rifles, sabers, and flags. They usually perform during football games at halftime or in marching band competitions. For the concerts, Byrne

reached out to his musical friends and teamed them up with ten color guard teams from around the country. During the show, each color guard team will spin, jump, and march through a routine created to match the musician’s live performance. “Contemporary Color” is presented by the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and is its first production held at Barclays Center. The two organizations have long planned to collaborate, said BAM president Karen Brooks Hopkins, and this show offered the perfect opportunity because the staging is too large to fit in one of the Academy’s concert halls. “This creates a space in New York to do all kinds of things we would never see because of the scale,” said Hopkins. “Contemporary Color” at Barclays Center [620 Atlantic Ave. at Flatbush Avenue in Prospect Heights, (917) 618-6700, www.barclayscenter.com/ June 27 and 28 at 7:30 pm. \$25–\$135.



Jake Naughton

Letting their freak flag fly: The Eamon color guard team performs with musician Tune-Yards in “Contemporary Color” at the Barclays Center on June 27–28.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8
Club [6 Wyckoff Ave. between Jefferson and Troutman streets in Bushwick, (917) 719–1138], www.cobraclubbk.com.
TOUR, KINGS THEATRE **TOUR:** Take a guided tour of the former movie palace, with facts about its history and architecture, and restoration into a state-of-

the-art live performance venue. \$20. 11 am. Kings Theatre (1027 Flatbush Ave. between Beverly Road and Tilden Avenue in Flatbush), www.kingstheatre.com.
TALK, HOLLY MADISON: Former Playboy Bunny Holly Madison talks about the bizarre world of the Playboy Mansion in her new book, “Down the Rabbit Hole.” **Free.** 7 pm. The BookMark Shoppe [8415 Third Ave. between 84th and 85th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 833–5115], www.bookmarkshoppe.com.

TUES, JUNE 23
FIRST DISCOVERIES FOR TODDLERS: Toddlers 2 to 4 years old with caregivers plant a carrot seed, touch a wiggly worm and listen to a story. **Free** with admission to the gardens. 1:30–3 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden [1000 Washington Ave., at Eastern Parkway in Crown Heights, (718) 623–7220], www.bbg.org.

WED, JUNE 24
MUSIC, BALKAN BANDS AT FREDDY’S: Freddy’s Bar showcases the sounds of the Balkans. Various international artists will take the stage, representing music from Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece, Turkey, Romania, and more. **Free.** 7 pm. Freddy’s Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768–0131], www.freddysbar.com.
COMEDY, THE BIG TERRIFIC COMEDY SHOW: Standup comedy, hosted by Max Silvestri. **Free.** 8 pm. Cameo Gallery [93 N. Sixth St. between Wythe Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 302–1180], www.cameony.net.

THURS, JUNE 25
MUSIC, AL B. SURE: Part of the 21st annual BAM R&B Music festival, which features a roster of both

well-known and emerging musicians of R&B and world music. **Free.** Noon. Metro-Tech Commons [1 Metro-Tech Roadway at Lawrence Street in Downtown, (718) 875–1780].
FRI, JUNE 26
ART, “EVERYBOOTY”: The multi-genre, multi-gender celebration of queer culture, “Everybooty” features readings, choirs, hip-hop performances, tarot cards, karaoke, and more in celebration of New York City Pride Month. \$25 (\$20 in advance), 8 pm–2 am. BAM Fisher [321 Ashland Pl. between Hansen Place and Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene], www.bam.org.
MUSIC, MYKKI BLANCO, PSYCHO EGYPTIAN, VIOLENCE, AMNESIA SCANNER: \$12. 11:59 pm. Palisades [906 Broadway at Stockton Street in Bushwick, (201) 214–7444], www.palisadesbk.com.

SAT, JUNE 27
THEATER, MAGMANUS: Swedish circus company Magmanus Company presents a show that combines circus skills, Bollywood juggling, unique teeterboard acrobatics, and a high flying acrobatic grand finale. **Free.** 4 pm and 7 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park [334 Furman St. at Middagh Street in Dumbo], www.cityparks-foundation.org.

Shredding the truth

Film covers teen band

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

This movie features a full metal racket. “Breaking a Monster,” a new documentary about Brooklyn’s most brutal middle school metal band will screen at BAMcinemaFest on June 20. The film, a fly-on-the-wall look at the first days of fame for kiddo headbangers Unlocking the Truth, is more of an unusual coming of age story than a classic music documentary, said the filmmaker. “It tells the story that is much more complex and more universal than the story of any one band,” said filmmaker Luke Meyer. “It just so happens to touch on all this

stuff happening to them that is really remarkable.” For the uninitiated, Unlocking the Truth is a teenage metal band from Flatbush whose searing riffs and baby-faced scowls went viral in 2013. Frontman and guitarist Malcolm Brickhouse, bassist Alec Atkins, and drummer Jarad Dawkins just finished eighth grade, but they have also melted faces at major festivals like Bonnaroo and Coachella. The young headbangers honed their craft by playing in Manhattan’s Times Square, and Meyer began filming them in early 2013 for a short documentary. That film was part of the viral wave that launched the band onto big stages and into a five-album, \$1.8 mil-



Luke Meyer

Sleeping dragon: Unlocking the Truth rests in the back of a car in a still from “Breaking a Monster,” a documentary about their rise to fame.

lion contract with Sony — and Meyer was there to capture it. “They were not your average kids, but they were still kids with relatively normal lives for their age,” he said. “Now they’re going on tours, working on an album, they were just on ‘The View.’ It’s a massive change.” Meyer considers himself lucky he was able to get in with the band before their big break. The film captures the boys as they meet with record executives, perform at South By Southwest, and negotiate seventh grade. These kids can shred, but it is impossible to forget how young they are. The contrast between their youth and the demands of fame and the music industry is the key to the film, said Meyer. “It’s been a pretty dramatic ride they are on,” Meyer said. “I really got to see them go through learning how to keep their own identities as people, go through adult decision processes, and letting go of their childhood.” “Breaking a Monster,” at BAM [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org. June 20 at 4 pm. \$10.

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Rescuers rush to save the remaining sharks.

Fin-der bender

Shark dies — in a car crash

By Max Jaeger
The Brooklyn Paper

It was like a real-life “Sharknado.” One of four sandbar sharks headed from Florida to Coney Island died after it was ejected from its tank when the 18-wheeler carrying it crashed on June 10. The tractor-trailer was transporting four finned predators from Marathon, Fla., to the New York Aquarium in Coney Island when a tire blew out on Interstate 95 and sent the truck careening into a stand of trees. And one of the fish went flying in the wreck, a Florida Highway Patrol spokeswoman said. “One shark was thrown out, or it jumped out — we don’t know,” said Sgt. Kim Montes. It may be the first time a shark has died in a car crash, according to a principal from the company transporting the fish. “I don’t know of one in particular,” said Dynasty Marine Transportation founder Forrest Young. “We’ve been doing this for many years, and I hate to claim to be the first guy that this happened to.” A team from nearby Sea World rescued the three surviving swimmers and is caring for them at the Orlando attraction. “The animals are currently stable and are doing well,” said Sea World aquarium curator Jim Kinsler. “The rescue team and our aquarists are continuing around the clock care for each shark as long as needed to ensure their health and success.” The aquatic-animal theme

park will care for the sharks until the New York Aquarium in Coney Island makes new transportation arrangements, according to a press release from Sea World. The bizarre crash ignited a frenzy among local and national press, Montes said. “I was here when Tiger Woods crashed, and I’ve gotten more phone calls on these sharks than Tiger Woods,” she said, referring to the golfer’s 2009 collision with a fire hydrant and tree as he fled his enraged, golf-club-swinging wife. The flying fish is reminiscent of “Sharknado” the 2013 made-for-television movie in which sharks sucked into a waterspout mete out flying ferocity in Los Angeles. Land-dwelling sharks are not unheard of in the Sunshine State, where Florida wildlife activist James W. Bufet first brought attention to their plight in 1979. If the sharks resume their trip on I-95, they will pass within one mile of a Jacksonville brewery that produces LandShark brand beer. But Brooklynites need not fear unsolicited plumbers or candygram men — the land shark bound for Coney Island is definitely dead, according to officials. No humans were injured in the collision, officials said. The aquarium is still shoring up its long-promised sharks exhibit after Hurricane Sandy washed over the facility in 2012. The accident will not affect the exhibit’s expected 2016 opening date, a spokeswoman said.

Oh, what a night!

CNG celebrates ‘Women of Distinction’

By Shavana Abruzzo
The Brooklyn Paper

Community News Group, the parent company of The Brooklyn Paper, honored 25 of the borough’s best and brightest during a June 10 gala at Sirico’s Caterers in Dyker Heights. The accolades capped our 2015 Brooklyn’s Women of Distinction magazine, which came out last month and profiled honorees whose ranks included volunteers, executives, small business owners,

and animal experts. The honorees — nominated by their peers and selected by independent judges — were picked for turning simple workdays into exceptional opportunities to improve our lives and advance Brooklyn, claimed the publishing giant’s president, Jennifer Goodstein, who was master of ceremonies. “These are the women who are shaping our borough and influencing our present and future,” she said. “Whether volunteers, government officials, or business owners, they bring their own unique skills to improve Brooklyn.” Their stories were inspiring: A retired homeowner became a leading civic activist — on a dare. A microbiologist gave up her globe-trotting career to minister and serve impoverished Brooklynites. A dance teacher took it upon herself to fulfill the holiday wishes of 600 children in need. Their combined efforts contributed to raising public consciousness about im-



CNG’s honorees gather outside Sirico’s Caterers in Dyker Heights.

portant issues, remarked keynote speaker and Park Sloper Ophira Eisenberg, a stand-up comic, writer, and host of National Public Radio’s hit trivia comedy show “Ask Me Another,” which is recorded in Gowanus. “I am moved by the women’s commitment to their communities and their desire to constantly help other people,” said Eisenberg after bringing the house down with her comic stylings.

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Sandy the Seagull is ready for the new Cyclones season. Elvis is still dead.

Take me out to MCU Park!

Cyclones open Saturday

I'm talking about at Yankee roast!

Our beloved Boys of Summer the Brooklyn Cyclones kick off their 15th season tonight with the first of three in an away-home-away set against the hated Staten Island Yankees — the Evil Empire of the New York–Penn League.

Manager Tom Gamboa, who extended the Cyclones playoff drought to two seasons while leading the team to a 42–34 record in 2014, hopes that time in professional ball for the handful of returning players will help take the team further this year.

“There is no substitute for experience,” the skipper said. “Particularly in Brooklyn where there are more than 6,000 people at a game.”

Gamboa says some of the battle-tested Clones, like right fielder Michael Bernel, who hit .240 while driving in 36 runs last season, could have an even bigger impact this season — if they learn to lay off pitches outside of the strike zone.

“Michael didn’t hit near his capabilities,” Gamboa said. “Lay off pitches that are balls, now you’re hitting 1–0, 2–0, 3–1. The pitcher has no choice but to throw strikes. Then the batting average and home runs go up.”

Gamboa added that an experienced college pitcher can get hitters to swing at pitches outside the zone.

“If a pitcher sees it, the pitcher knows he doesn’t

have to throw strikes,” Gamboa said.

This year’s pitching staff has Gaither Bumgardner (two saves) and Carlos Valdez (2–2, 3.99) returning. Gamboa says he’ll preach to his hurlers the importance of hitting the right spots.

Diamond Dave's

Cyclones Report

By David Russell

“It’s about location,” he said. “A well-located 89 miles-per-hour fastball is better than down-the-middle at 93.”

The Division I college leaders in home runs, earned-run average, and batting average might be coming to Coney Island as well.

Selected in the fourth round, David Thompson led the nation in dingers while playing for the Miami Hurricanes. Seventh-round selection Corey Taylor had a miniscule ERA of 0.31 at Texas Tech. Kevin Kaczmarewski hit .465 for Evansville and was selected in the ninth round.

The Cyclones home opener is Saturday night at MCU Park. Be there.

Brooklyn Cyclones home opener vs. Staten Island Yankees at MCU Park [Surf Avenue between W. 16th and W. 19th streets in Coney Island, (718) 449–8497, www.brooklyncyclones.com]. June 20, 6:30 pm. Gates open at 5 pm. \$10–\$17.

Rainbow connection

Thousands take to Slope streets for Brooklyn Pride

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

Talk about pride and joy! Thousands of revelers swarmed Fifth Avenue in Park Slope on Saturday to celebrate all things here and queer at the 19th Brooklyn Pride festival.

Mayor DeBlasio — who reportedly showed up 20 minutes late for the parade kick-off — said that he remembered when the event was much smaller, and that this year’s turnout was testament to how far both the city and the country have come in embracing equality for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

“It says something that it has grown and become a parade that everyone joins in,” said the former Park Sloper, one of many rainbow-flag-waving pols who took part in the march. “That says something about how this city has moved forward. Our nation is moving forward.”

This year’s festival was one for the ages, according to one attendee who said he was thrilled by the (eventual) presence of elected leaders.

“I think that was the best Pride I have ever been to,” said Tivaun Cooper of Canar-



(Clockwise from above) Erik Willingham, of Flatbush, Morga McGhee, of Bushwick, and Andre Malcolm, of Flatbush, show their colors in the Brooklyn Pride parade in Park Slope on June 13. Miriam Tijujalno and her 4-month-old son Iker Rodriguez, of Park Slope, show their pride. Mayor DeBlasio and his wife Chirlane McCray march.

sie. “DeBlasio’s participation meant a lot. He was just going around and greeting people, and I think that sent a really strong message.”

Three New Yorkers shared grand marshal duty at this year’s twilight parade. Brooke Guinan, the city’s first openly

transgender firefighter, led the procession on foot, while husbands George Constantinou and Farid Ali Lancheros, who co-own Bogota Latin Bistro on Fifth Avenue, drove in a convertible with their kids — trailed by restaurant mascots dressed as anthropomor-

phic empanadas.

The colorful cavalcade, which included Scout troops, motorcycle clubs, cheerleaders, and local businesses, surged down the street from Sterling Place to Ninth Street, where the merrymakers joined the all-



day festival between Third and Ninth streets, enjoying live music, kids’ activities, drag performances, and food vendors.

One proud attendee, celebrating in Brooklyn for the first time, said he was impressed by the festivities in his

newly adopted borough.

“It was really nice and chill,” said Eric Willingham, who recently moved to Flatbush from Alabama. “I’m planning on going to the Manhattan one too, but I enjoyed the Brooklyn one a lot.”

Did the time, not the crime

Talking with a man wrongfully imprisoned for 16 years

Jeffrey Deskovic is curious about everyone and everything. He goes to lectures and reaches out to people, including me. When I met the 41-year-old Throggs Neck activist for breakfast at City Coffee in Jackson Heights last week, he asked the weary waitress where she was from.

“Peru,” she replied, and she perked up when talk turned to her country’s purple corn drink — *chicha morada*.

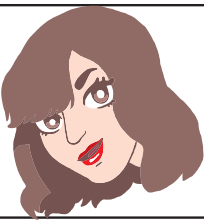
“It is very delicious but you must drink it ice-cold.”

“Bring me one of those!” said Jeff.

Jeff is making up for lost time: the 16 years he spent behind bars for a rape and murder he didn’t commit.

Jeff was exonerated in 2006. A new DNA test matched a convict doing time for another rape and murder. Since getting out, he has been bringing attention to wrongful convictions and false confessions — like the one he made, at age 16.

You may remember the case. It was up in Peekskill, New York, where Jeff was born and raised by his mom and grandma. The victim was a 15-year-old girl at his high school. Jeffery caught the attention of police for a bizarre reason: he seemed too



Rhymes with CRAZY

By Lenore Skenazy

deeply upset. The cops spent the next six weeks focusing on Jeff.

“Half the time they talked to me as if I was a suspect. The other time they would pretend they needed my help to solve the crime,” said Jeff. “They’d say, ‘Kids won’t talk freely around us. They will around you.’ They were asking my opinions and congratulating me on my insights.”

For a shy young man who’d dreamed of becoming a police officer, these were heady, confusing times. One day the cops said they had new, special information to give him, but it was so sensitive that first he would have to take a lie detector test.

He skipped school for this incredible privilege and three cops drove him out of town. There, for the next six hours, they kept him in a small room, giving him endless cups of coffee — as if he wasn’t shaky enough — but no food.

“After 40 minutes, the polygrapher started giving me the third degree. He raised his voice and kept asking me the same questions over and over. As each hour goes by my fear escalates, and toward the end he said, ‘What do you mean you didn’t do it! You just told me through the test results that you did! We just want you to verbally

confirm it!’ That shot my fear through the roof. It was then that the cop who pretended to be my friend told me the other cops were going to harm me — he said he’d been holding them back but couldn’t indefinitely. And he added if I did as they wanted, they would stop and I could go home afterwards.”

Jeffrey fell to the floor and curled into the fetal position, sobbing. But he gave them their confession. The false one that sent him to prison.

There was no other evidence against him. His semen did not match that found on the victim, but the prosecutor said it didn’t matter because the girl was promiscuous —

Next: Fearless grandparenting

It has finally happened. Aside from attending late-season baseball games of my boys’, I barely see them on the weekend. They are there, little blurs of long-limbed things asking for money, and then they are gone, shouting from afar that they will call me later.

They will call me later.

They will see me later. They are running around with friends, finding basketball courts and places to throw the ball. They are grabbing a slice or a crepe or a bahn mi sandwich, going to the movies, playing video games somewhere else. And there I am. Here I am.

I smile at babies again and



Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

try to get them to smile back. I ask toddlers their names, and tell them how cute their outfits are. To my 11-year-old, this is weird behavior.

“You’re kinda creepy, mom, the way you are with kids,” he says.

The thing is, I always wanted kids. I always loved to babysit. Not that I found having babies easy or always enjoyable. It is hard work, but, man, are they amazing.

Time flies. People tell you that, but it is hard to believe. You can’t imagine that that tiny thing you bring home swaddled in blankets will be playing his last Little League game (which you miss for that tiny thing you bring home clothing exchange, not realizing it is his last.) You can’t possibly believe that the needy little sucker will someday roll his eyes at you and ask you “Why?” when you ask when he will be home.

Friends from high school are posting pictures of their babies graduating high school on Facebook.

“OMG, No!” I wrote to one of my best friends whose daughter stands next to her in a photo in a cap and gown, a spitting image of her at 17. “That was *just* us!”

My own son is graduating middle school. I remember it like it was yesterday, the eighth-grade graduation dance where the boys donned parachute pants, the girls channeled “Flashdance” or Madonna, and we danced to ZZ Top.

The transition from full-time parenting to some quasi part-time parenting — where you have to be around in case they need you, but ideally they

don’t need you — is a weird one. You are not quite able to take off, but not busy with the usual tasks that have taken up so much of your time for the last 14 years.

I’m trying not to panic. I’m trying hard to breathe.

I can’t believe it. Really? They’re just about to leave?

I write poems when I’m feeling helpless, so there’s the one for now. My babies are going to leave me soon! It is good, we all say to each other. We can go out now, do things. We don’t have to worry about babysitters. In the city in particular, tweens and teens are highly self-sufficient. But...

There is a big *but*. I had kids ‘cause I wanted them. There are only so many restaurants I care to try or movies I want to see. There are only so many plays or dance productions that sound interesting. And while freedom sounded fabulous when I was tied to the house trying desperately to figure what it might take to get one or the other of my baby boys to sleep, now it just seems ... hard to figure.

Maybe I should take up watching television again, or learn the patience to knit. Maybe another dog would do the trick, or a cat, though from what I hear, they are pretty independent. I’m sure I’ll figure the way to fill my time again. And I’ll nostalgically look back at all the time I had with them under my wing, helping them to learn how to fly by themselves, away from me.



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Father Edward Doran, the parish priest of St. Charles Borromeo church, stands in the garden where vandals knocked over a statue of the Virgin Mary on June 12.

Unholy rollers

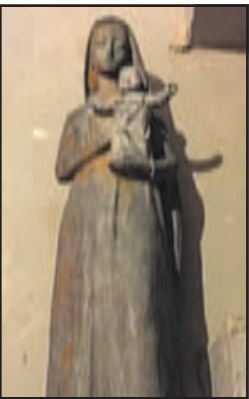
Vandals topple Virgin statue in Heights

By Noah Hurowitz
The Brooklyn Paper

Cops are on the lookout for a pair of young men caught on video knocking over a decades-old statue of the Virgin Mary in front of a Brooklyn Heights parish house last week. The act of vandalism is a slap in the face to Catholics and to the neighborhood as a whole, said the church's priest.

"It's like if you burned a picture of my mother," said Father Edward Doran of St. Charles Borromeo Church on Sidney Place between Aitken Place and Joralemon Street.

The security footage, which was captured in the wee hours of June 12, shows a man open a gate into the garden, wrap the Blessed Mother in a bear-hug, tear the statue from its pedestal, and lower it to the ground — all while his buddy films the incident



The statue lies in the basement of the parish house.

on his cellphone. The blasphemous blockheads then run off into the night.

The statue, a four-foot bronze depiction of the Virgin Mary holding baby Je-

sus, has graced the front of the Charles Borromeo parish house since the 1960s.

Doran said the church will have to pay thousands of dollars to restore the statue, which is currently lying in the basement of the parish house. It will also have to hire landscapers to tear up and replant the garden in order to get Mary back on her feet, he said.

The duo's motive in defacing the statue is unclear, but Doran speculated that it could have been a dare or some sort of "initiation ritual," as the vandals appeared to be young and doing it for kicks.

The clergyman said he would have had to answer to a higher authority than the 84th Precinct for such a brazen and disrespectful act when he was a young man growing up in Long Island.

"My father would have kicked my a--," Doran said.

Seize the daycare!

State Senate passes bill to save center

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Score one for the little guys — and their grandmas.

A threatened Williamsburg day care and senior center is close to escaping eviction after the state Senate on Monday passed a bill that will allow the state to seize control of the building via eminent domain, says a local lawmaker.

Assemblyman Joe Lentol (D-Williamsburg) said he and supporters of the Swinging Sixties Senior Center and Small World Day Care are still hoping to save the Ainslie Street facility through the courts or by negotiating with the landlord. But — so long as Gov. Cuomo signs the measure into law — they will soon be able to use the threat of confiscating the property as a trump card.

"We now have eminent domain as our nuclear option,"

said Lentol, who introduced the bill in January. "Regardless of how it is done, it looks like the center is very close to being saved."

The Assembly okayed the eminent domain measure two weeks ago, but proponents of the bill had said they were nervous that the state Senate, which didn't pass a previous proposal to save the building, would not follow suit — especially with the end of the legislative session looming. But state Sen. Martin Malave Dilan (D-Bushwick) said he convinced his colleagues to push the proposed legislation through at the 11th hour.

"This was a last-gasp measure to save an invaluable and irreplaceable community resource," Dilan said.

Gov. Cuomo has until the end of the year to sign the bill, but he could give it his John

Hancock as soon as the Assembly puts its final stamp on it.

Community activists and local politicians have been fighting to keep the three-story, 41-year-old senior center in its original home since late 2013, when father-and-son landlords Victor and Harry Einhorn purchased the property, promptly raised the rent, then served the longtime tenants with eviction papers on Christmas Eve.

The old- and young-folks centers and the people that love them have managed to keep the eviction tied up in court, where they are arguing that the Einhorns' purchase was illegitimate, because the city and community groups that run the facility should have been given the option to buy the property first. The next court date in the case is scheduled for July.

At the same time, Len-

tol and other pols have been pushing the city and state to step in, arguing that the center was built using taxpayers' money with the specific goal of serving the public, so the government has a right and responsibility to stop it from being shut down.

This is the second time that Lentol has attempted to pass legislation to allow a government to take over the building. He introduced a similar bill last year, but the measure stalled after senators complained that it was too broad and might be used to commandeer other buildings. The new bill leaves nothing to chance — it specifies the building's exact address.

One longtime champion of the facility said she was delighted to see lawmakers using their political clout to save the neighborhood hub.

"It is extraordinary that eminent domain is finally going to be used to help communities, and that the state was willing to stand up for this small center in the middle of Brooklyn," said Jan Peterson.

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Legal Notices

Notice is hereby given regarding Cemetery lots abandoned under Section 1513-a of the Not for Profit Corporation Law at Cypress Hills Cemetery, 833 Jamaica Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11208, 718-277-2900. Section 6 Lot 50: John R. Winthrop Lot 34: George Mitchell Lot 100: Franklin H. Horton Lot 103: John Murphy Lot 144: Enoch Douglas Lot 195: Margaret Mathews Lot 173: Eliza Neville Lot 310: A.B. Haight Lot 379: Sheldon Bailey Lot 180: George Bogert Lot 311: George Roth Lot 184: Abrams and Posner Lot 7: Gilbert Doremus

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: **VLADIMAX, LLC**. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/13/2015. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THE LLC 21 BAY 31 ST #2 BROOKLYN, NY 11214. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE GUILFORD COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 15 CVD 3391. **BRANDI CONTESSA BULLARD**, Plaintiff, vs. **NOTICE OF SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION** ALI PHILLIPS, Defendant. To: ALI PHILLIPS, **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is an action by the Plaintiff for absolute divorce from the Defendant. You are required to make defense to such pleading not later than JULY 24, 2015, and upon your failure to do so, the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief sought. This the 3rd day of June, 2015. **HATFIELD & HATFIELD**. By: Cynthia A. Hatfield 219 W. Washington Street Greensboro, NC 27401. (336) 273-0589. Attorney for Plaintiff. Publication Dates: June 12, 2015, June 19, 2015 and June 26, 2015.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 06/10/2015, bearing Index Number **NC-000620-15/KI**, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Kristina (Middle) Lela (Last) Poitier-Wells. My present name is (First) Kristina (Middle) Lela-Poitier (Last) Wells AKA Kristina Poitier-Wells AKA Kristina Lela Poitier Wells (infant). My present address is 140 Moore St, Brooklyn, NY 11206. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is June 22, 1997.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 27th day of February, 2015 bearing Index Number **16673/2014**, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of **LYNN ANN VILLANTI**. My present address is 103 South 4th Street, Apt 2, Brooklyn, NY 11249. My date of birth is September 25th, 1966. The place of my birth is New York, NY. My present name is Female Villanti.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 06/10/2015, bearing Index Number **NC-000612-15/KI**, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Robert (Last) Rodriguez. My present name is (First) Roberto (Last) Rodriguez AKA Robert Rodriguez FKA Robin Rodriguez. My present address is 582 Throop Ave, Brooklyn, NY. 11216. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is June 12, 1964.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court Kings County on the 8th day of June 2015, bearing Index Number **NO0611/15**, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, grants me the right, to assume the name of **YuChai Chen**. My present address is 1405 Gravesend Neck Road, Brooklyn, NY 11229; The date of my birth is March 2, 1983; My present name is **YuCai Chen**.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 06/10/2015, bearing Index Number **NC-000622-15/KI**, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Sofia (Middle) Fatima (Last) Aamir. My present name is (First) Sofia (Last) Muskan (infant). My present address is 2253 East 66th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234. My place of birth is Fall River, Massachusetts. My date of birth is October 17, 2000.

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: KINGS COUNTY CENLAR, FSB; Plaintiff(s) vs. MENACHEM WEISZ; et al; Defendant(s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about May 6, 2015, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at in Room 224 of Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201. On July 9, 2015 at 2:30 pm. Premises known as 186 HOWARD AVE, BROOKLYN, NY 11233. Block: 1508 Lot: 46. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York. As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale. Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale. Approximate amount of judgment \$282,006.01 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 23682/10. Annalise Cottle, Esq., REFEREE

NOTICE OF A LEGAL POSTPONEMENT OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF KINGSSHBC BANK USA, N.A., AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF ACE SECURITIES CORP. HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST AND FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF ACE SECURITIES CORP. HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-HE2, BACKED THROUGH CERTIFICATES, Plaintiff(s), Against ERROL FORRESTER, et al., Defendant(s). Index No.: 9222/2009. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered in the Kings County Clerk's Office on 8/27/2014, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on 7/2/2015 at 2:30 pm premises known as 351 4th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11215, described as follows: ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn and County of Kings, City and State of New York, and designated on the tax maps of the Kings County Treasurer as Block 982 and Lot 61. The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$918,657.83 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 9222/2009. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Blaise F. Parascandola, Esq., Referee. Original sale date was scheduled for 1/15/2015, same time and location. Leopold & Associates, PLLC, 80 Business Park Drive, Suite 110, Armonk, NY, 10504 Dated: 5/11/2015

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE INDEX NO.: 503752/2013 FILE DATE: 06/01/15 MORTGAGED PREMISES: 1498 President St., Brooklyn, NY 11213 BL #: 1406- 16 Plaintiff designates Kings County as the place of trial; venue is based upon the county in which the mortgaged premises is situate. STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF KINGS WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff - against- Dana Piekarski, if they be living, and if dead, the respective heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignors, lienors, creditors and successors in interest, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and their respective husbands, wives or widows, in any and each and every person not specifically named who may be entitled to or claim to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the verified complaint; all of whom and whose names and places of residence unknown, and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained by the Plaintiff, ET AL. Defendants. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer

the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the attorneys for the Plaintiff within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. **NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.** A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$316,000.00 and interest, recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Kings on March 16, 2004, at C.R.F.N. 2004000158619, covering premises at 1498 PRESIDENT ST., BROOKLYN, NY 11213 - BLOCK 1406; LOT 16. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. The Plaintiff also seeks a deficiency judgment against the Defendant and for any debt secured by said Mortgage which is not satisfied by the proceeds of the sale of said premises. TO the Defendant(s) DANA PIEKARSKI, the foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Dawn Jimenez-Salta of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, dated May 7, 2015. Dated: New Rochelle, NY. June 1, 2015. MCCABE, WEISBERG & CONWAY, P.C. Signed Pursuant to 22 NYCRR Section 130-1.1-a /s/ _____ Sonia J. Baez, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiff 145 Huguenot St., Ste. 210 New Rochelle, NY 10801. p. 914-636-8900 f. 914-636-8901. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE NEW YORK STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT WE SEND YOU THIS NOTICE ABOUT THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY. **SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT** YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND TO THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION, YOU MAY LOSE YOUR HOME. PLEASE READ THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT CAREFULLY. YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT AN ATTORNEY OR YOUR LOCAL LEGAL AID OFFICE TO OBTAIN ADVICE

ON HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE. The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid office, there are government agencies and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by the New York State Banking Department of Financial Services at 1-800-342-3736 or visit the Department's website at www.dfs.ny.gov. **FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS.** Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services.

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS INDEX NO. 502133/2014 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS Plaintiff designates Kings County as the place of trial situs of the real property **NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A CHAMPION MORTGAGE COMPANY**, Plaintiff, vs. **HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTUTES TO THE ESTATE OF HENRY GEIGER**; if living, and if they be dead, any and all persons unknown to plaintiff, claiming, or who may claim to have an interest in, or general or specific lien upon the real property described in this action; such unknown persons being herein generally described and intended to be included in the following designation, namely: the wife, widow, husband, widower, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors, and assignees of such deceased, any and all persons deriving interest in or lien upon, or title to said real property by, through or under them, or either of them, and their respective wives, widows, husbands, widowers, heirs at law, next of kin, descendants, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, creditors, trustees, committees, lienors and assigns, all of whom and whose names, except as stated, are unknown to plaintiff: **TAI RON GEIGER AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY GEIGER; HENRY GEIGER, JR., AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY GEIGER; SHANIQUE GEIGER AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY GEIGER; MONIQUE GEIGER AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF HENRY GEIGER; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE IN TRUST FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CERTIFICATEHOLDER FOR ABFC 2005-AQ1 TRUST, ASSET-**

BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-AQ1, NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD, NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU, PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #12," the last twelve names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, the persons or parties intended being the tenants, occupants, persons or corporations, if any, having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the premises, described in the complaint, Defendants. **MORTGAGED PREMISES:** 418 Vermont Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207 Block: 3773 Lot: 134 To the above-named Defendants: **YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance on the Plaintiff's Attorney within 20 days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York) in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until (60) days after service of the Summons; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. **NOTICE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT** THE OBJECT of the above captioned action is to foreclose a Mortgage to secure \$487,500.00 and interest, in the Office of the City Register of the City of New York in the County of Kings on September 29, 2009 in CRFN 2009000314391, covering premises known as 418 Vermont Street, Brooklyn, NY 11207. The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the Mortgage described above. Kings County is designated as the place of trial because the real property affected by this action is located in said county. **NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME.** If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. **YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.** Dated: February 3, 2015 RAS Boriskin, LLC, Attorney for Plaintiff By: Thomas Zegarelli, Esq. 900 Merchants Concourse, Suite LL-13, Westbury, NY 11590 (516) 280-7675 14-38563.

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